

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 4 and 7 are pending in the application.

Support For Claim Amendment

Support for the amendment to independent claim 4 may be found in the specification at page 6, lines 25-31, particularly, lines 26-27; specification at page 4, lines 22-25; claim 8 (now canceled); and original claim 5 (now canceled).

New matter is not being presented by the present amendment.

§103

Claims 4 and 6 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Japan No. 08-250339 to Arai et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,063,098 to Niwa et al.

This rejection, as applied to the amended claims, is respectfully traversed.

Patentability

The present inventors discovered that the conditions required for suppressing plane vibration are satisfied by randomly inserting viscoelastic layers between the electrical steel sheets and the noise of electric apparatus, such as transformers, can be effectively lowered by applying such to electrical steel sheets. See specification, page 6, lines 25-31.

On the other hand, both of JP-A-8-250339 and USP 5,063,098 disclose that the viscoelastic damping polymer film is integrally-damped by the steel sheet as in a sandwich state for providing a laminated reinforced composite core.

However, neither of these cited references discloses or suggests to randomly insert viscoelastic layers between electrical steel sheets for reducing the noise of the transformer. Therefore, the present invention is quite different from the cited prior art.


It is therefore submitted that amended independent claim 4, and claim 7 dependent thereon, are patentable over Japan No. 08-250339 to Aari et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,063,098 to Niwa et al.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that in view of the present amendment and foregoing remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that the application, as amended, be allowed and passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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